**South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**January 8th, 2024 at 2:00 pm**

The Board of Trustees of the South Salt Lake Valley Mosquito Abatement District (SSLVMAD), Salt Lake County, State of Utah, met via an electronic board meeting via Zoom with an anchor location established at the District offices at 7308 Airport Road, West Jordan, Utah.

The following board members were present Tish Buroker (Riverton), Silvia Catten (Millcreek), Don Christensen (West Valley), Gene Drake (West Jordan), Brad Gilson (Draper), Paul Glover (Midvale), Kristie Overson (Taylorsville), Linda Price (White City), Florence Reynolds (Sandy), Ilene Risk (Salt Lake County), Steve Shields (Herriman), Laverne Snow (Murray), and Tamara Zander (South Jordan).

The following board members were absent:), Jeff Bossard (Brighton), Ty Brewer (Holladay), Jeff Gaston (Bluffdale), Matt Holton (Cottonwood Heights), and LeAnne Huff (South Salt Lake).

Also attending were Dan McBride and Eric Gardner

1. **Welcome**. Chair Catten duly called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 2:02 pm.
2. **Citizen Comments**. No citizens commented.
3. **Board Conflicts of Interest Disclosures**. No board members had any agenda conflicts to disclose.
4. **Approve Minutes**. Price moved to approve the minutes of the December public hearing and board meeting. Risk seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor, Christensen, Shields, and Zander were absent for the vote.
5. **Election of Officers for 2024**. Catten identified herself as current Chair, Buroker as current Vice Chair, and Risk as current Treasurer. Price made a motion to maintain those board officer assignments. Snow seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.
6. **2023 Fourth Quarter Financial Review**. McBride reviewed the 2023 fourth quarter financial report noting that funds from property taxes are coming in, PTIF reserve fund is lower following payout at the time of employee retirement and extraordinary control expenses in 2023. Buroker asked about tuition reimbursement funds; McBride indicated some may be used this year. Snow asked if finance classes would be paid for from that fund; McBride indicated that planned finance classes would be covered by the Education budget. McBride noted banking fees and indicated that the reason for the fees is being investigated. Snow asked about measures to avoid fees in the future. McBride explained that a delay in fund transfer may have contributed to the fee. Catten explained that a similar fee was assessed one other time and was related to the transfer of funds. McBride, Catten, and Risk noted that no alerts were received from Zions Bank prior to the fee being assessed; Risk offered to follow up regarding receiving alerts in the future. Catten requested follow-up report about receiving alerts.
7. **2023 Annual Report**. Snow congratulated staff for producing the report and requested a short presentation in an upcoming meeting about studies included in the report.

McBride summarized the annual report noting average monthly temperatures greater than in the past and suggesting that rising temperatures may influence the mosquito population. Snow asked about correlating meteriological data with surveillance data. McBride indicated that such analysis may be possible but might take some time to implement.

McBride mentioned that far more mosquitoes were observed in surveillance traps in 2023 largely due to exceptionally high numbers of *Culex tarsalis*. Risk noted that it was fortunate that human cases of West Nile virus were low despite high numbers of vectors. McBride agreed and mentioned mosquito pools positive for West Nile virus and human cases in neighboring states.

McBride noted greater than average acres treated for larval mosquitoes. Buroker asked about large number of acres treated in South Jordan. Zander asked why area treated in Riverton was lower than in neighboring South Jordan and Draper. McBride explained that some large areas of laraval mosquito habitat near the Jordan River in South Jordan and Draper were responsible for the area treated there.

McBride noted fewer tree-hole mosquitoes than expected, reported on mosquito fish delivery to ornamental ponds, pointed out fewer larvae in horse troughs than observed in previous years, and explained catch basin treatments. He explained productivity for seasonal crews, mentioned that adult mosquito control activites were limited by weather conditions, noted that service requests were above average, and summarized arbovirus activity indicating that 46 mosquito pools were positive for West Nile virus. Risk asked about use of sentinel chickens for arbovirus activity in neighboring districts. McBride indicated that chickens are used in Magna, but he did not have complete data about results from that surveillance.

McBride explained less effort in black fly control in 2023, and a delay in implementing the education program due to staffing shortages, and reported on pesticide expenses.

Buroker asked about hard copies of the report and McBride explained that hard copies are available at the District office and additional copies could be made available upon request. Overson and Catten expressed appreciation for the report

1. **Forecasting Pesticide Need and Purchasing**. McBride explained that historical use, current inventory, and past orders inform decisions about budgeting for and ordering pesticide. Snow requested a summary of data presented.
2. **Conditions of the District**. McBride noted that current activities at the District include finalizing the annual report, planning 2024 goals and focus, reviewing policies and programs, and onboarding newly hired assistant manager.

McBride reviewed upcoming conferences.

Noting that Zander will be leaving the board, McBride thanked her for participating, and explained that re-appointed and newly appointed board members need to complete board training.

McBride announced hiring of Scott Sommer as the new assistant manager. Sommer has worked as a high school teacher and seasonal employee at SSLVMAD for 20 years. He has good education background, is familiar with the District and will begin employment with the District at the end of January.

McBride reported on safety goals, and noted that a review of legisltation that may impact the District will be included in conditions of the District beginning in February.

1. **Board Meeting Items for February 12th Meeting.** McBride noted that a presentation summarizing efficacy research can be included. No additional items were requested.
2. **Approve Bills**. The bills were presented for approval and payment. Overson moved to approve the bills. Gilson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor.
3. **Adjourn**. Zander moved to adjurn the meeting, Price seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 2:57 pm.